

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

This Amendment and Response (the “Amendment”) is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 27, 2009 (the “Office Action”). Claims 14-32 are pending in the application. Claims 14, 20 and 27 are in independent form.

By this Amendment, as outlined above, claims 14, 20 and 27 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the originally-filed specification at, for example, paragraph [0030] and in Figures 1, 2 and 4. It is believed that no new matter has been added. Following entry of this Amendment, claims 14-35 remain pending in the application.

II. THE CLAIM OBJECTION SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

In the Office Action, claims 27-31 are objected to because line 5 of claim 27 recites “bard” instead of “bar.” As outlined above, the word “bard” has been replaced with “bar.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the claim objection be withdrawn.

III. THE CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(A) SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

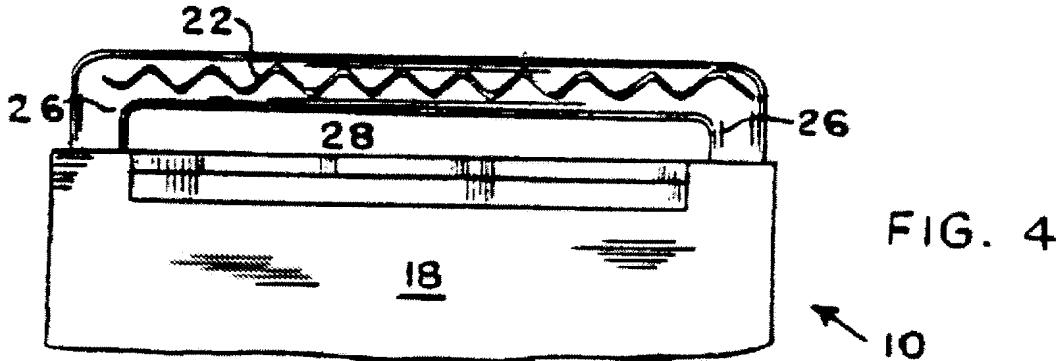
In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 14-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (“Section 103(a)”) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,998,347 to Schächter (hereinafter “Schächter”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0208907 to Brown, Jr., *et al.* (hereinafter “Brown”). The rejections are traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 14 is directed to a process for the manufacture of a wet shaving system comprising the steps of “providing a guard bar having a *longitudinal body* having two ends, wherein the *guard bar is parallel to the blade cutting edge along its entire length*; positioning said guard bar in a mold cavity for said platform; and molding at least part of the platform by injecting plastic in the mold cavity, wherein said at least part of the platform is molded over said ends of said guard bar during the process of molding the platform.” Applicants respectfully submit that Schächter fails to disclose or suggest such a process.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Schächter shows a shaving system having a “stainless steel guard bar (12) in the shape of a longitudinal body . . . positioned forward of the at least one blade (14) and parallel to the blade cutting edge.” (Office Action,

page 3.) Applicants respectfully submit that the guard bar (12) described in Schächter does not have a “longitudinal body” that is “parallel to the blade cutting edge along its entire length” as required by claim 20.

As can be seen in Figure 4 from Schächter, which is reproduced below, the guard bar (12) in Schächter includes “end portions 26 bent at right angles.” (Schächter, col. 3, lines 61-62.)



Thus, the guard bar (12) described in Schächter is similar to the guard bar in U.S. Patent No. 4,502,217, also to Schächter (the “Schächter ’217 patent”), which is described in the “Background of the Invention” section of the present application. As described in the present application, the Schächter ’217 patent’s guard bar “comprises a longitudinal bar and two short end legs which form an angle with the bar, and is thus in the form of a ‘U.’ (As- Filed Application, ¶ [0009].) Thus, because the Schächter guard bar (12) includes end portions 26 bent at right angles thereby forming a “U”-shaped guard bar, the Schächter guard bar is not “a longitudinal body” that is “parallel to the blade cutting edge along its entire length.”

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that independent claim 14 is patentable over Schächter and Brown, either taken alone or in combination, and is therefore allowable. Independent claims 20 and 27 include similar recitations to those discussed above for claim 14 and are therefore allowable for similar or somewhat similar reasons to those discussed for claim 14. Further, claims 15-19, 26, 32 and 33, which depend from claim 14, claims 21-25, 34 and 35, which depend from claim 20, and claims 28-31, which depend from claim 27, are believed to be allowable as well.

CONCLUSION

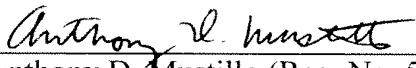
In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider pending claims 14-35 with a view towards allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (212) 326-3939 if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining issues.

Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

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Anthony D. Mustillo (Reg. No. 58,836)
JONES DAY
222 East 41st Street
New York, New York 10017
(212) 326-3939